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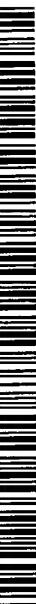
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



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(54) Title: MULTIPLEX PCR

(57) Abstract: Compositions and methods for nucleic acid amplification are provided that minimize the formation and amplification of spurious products, particularly in multiplex amplification reactions. Linear amplification molecules are provided. A first embodiment comprises a first common primer sequence, a first template homology region, a cleavable site, a second common primer sequence and a second template homology region. Methods employing the linear amplification molecules for nucleic acid amplification are also provided. A first embodiment comprises a template-specific hybridization, a linear amplification, a template-specific intramolecular hybridization, a strand cleavage, a second linear amplification and an exponential amplification using common primers.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/37238

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C12Q 1/68, C12P 19/34; C07H 21/02, 21/04, 19/00
US CL : 435/6, 91.1, 91.2; 536/22.1, 23.1, 24.3, 24.31, 24.32, 24.33

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 435/6, 91.1, 91.2; 536/22.1, 23.1, 24.3, 24.31, 24.32, 24.33

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,731,171 A (BOHLANDER) 24 March 1998 (24.03.1998), see whole doc.	1-36

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
EAST-USPATFULL, DERWENT, JPO,EPO, IBMTECH, PG PUB,
STN-BIOSIS, MEDLINE, CANCERLIT, BIOTECHDHS, LIFESCI,CAPLUS,EMBASE
search terms-multiplex, dimer, primer, spurious, linear, amplification , loop, cleavage

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